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PROCEEDINGS.

THIRD SESSION.

The Third Scientific Session of the Academy was held in Philadelphia on Thursday, the 13th of November, 1890, at 1520 Chestnut street, at 8 P. M.

The President congratulated the Academy upon the success which had attended the organization. The steady and continuous increase of the number of members was a matter of great congratulation. At that time the membership numbered 1200, with ample evidence that the interest in the work and objects of the Academy would bring to it many more.

The Corresponding Secretary announced that since the last session of the Academy the following papers had been submitted to it:

14. By Dr. Charles M. Andrews, of Bryn Mawr: *The Beginnings of Connecticut Towns*. Printed in October ANNALS.

15. By Dr. J. H. Robinson: *Original and Derived Features of the Constitution*. Printed in October ANNALS.

16. By Miss Henrietta Leonard: *Method in Political Economy*, translated from the German of Professor Böhm-Bawerk. Printed in October ANNALS.

17. By Professor E. Böhm-Bawerk, Vienna: *The Austrian Economists*. Printed in current ANNALS.

18. By D. G. Ritchie, M.A., Oxford: *The Conception of Sovereignty*. Printed in current ANNALS.

19. By Professor W. J. Ashley, Toronto: *The Character of Villein Tenure*. Printed in current ANNALS.

20 and 21. By Professor F. N. Thorpe: Memoir of the late Judge J. A. Jameson; and, Are the State Governments Decaying?

22. By Miss E. S. Lord, Smith College: International Arbitration.

23. By Professor F. M. Taylor, Michigan: Natural Law.

24. By Mr. J. Q. Adams: The Administration of Schools in Prussia.

25. By Mr. J. H. Gray: Meeting of the Verein für Sozialpolitik.

26. By Mr. Carl Plehn, on the same subject.

27. By Mr. E. P. Cheyney: An American Collection of Archives of the French Revolution.

Professor Holcomb read his paper (No. 5) on "Our National Bureau of Education." In it he sketched the growth of a function of our central Government which seemed destined to be of ever-increasing importance, namely, the collection of information on a great variety of topics. Prominent in this work is the National Bureau of Education, whose inception was due to the deep concern excited by the educational problems which rose into prominence on the close of the Civil War. Whatever may be or may not be the scope of Congressional legislation on this subject, it was felt that something must be done in the way of better statistics than could be obtained through the decennial census. Hence the formation of the Bureau, which has since developed a very many-sided activity, and could render even more efficient services to the cause of education in this country if more adequately equipped. A plea was made for larger appropriations for the Bureau, for its reorganization as a separate Department of Education, with a Secretary having a salary equal to that of members of the Cabinet without his being a member of that body, and for the erection of a suitable building to contain the educational museum, the library, and the administrative offices of the department. The

members of the Academy were appealed to to lend their aid in urging the desired legislation.

Professor Thorpe then read his paper (No. 21) on the subject "Are the State Governments Decaying?" At the desire of the author the paper is withheld from publication. Remarks were made by Professors Patten and Giddings, Messrs. Falkner and Wood.

Mr. Cheyney then read in abstract the paper (No. 19) presented by Professor Ashley and printed in the current ANNALS. In the discussion which followed, Mr. Henry J. Hancock dissented from Professor Ashley's position, holding to the opinion of the older writers, which in his view was supported not only by the direct evidence of the law books and historical research in England, but also by all the analogies to be drawn from other peoples in the early stages of their development. Rev. Dr. MacIntosh called in evidence the "Ulster tenant-right" as furnishing an argument against Professor Ashley's view. There the system of land-holding combated in the paper was clearly in vogue before the English possession, and it seemed proper to infer that it was a method obtaining everywhere under more or less primitive conditions.

Session adjourned at 9.45 P. M.